

WHAT TO DO

See the Azulejos at the station

When arriving in Aveiro by train or bus, start your journey by visiting the old train station. The building, notable for its white facade, orange rooftop, and blue Azulejos depicting local scenes of salt flats and canals, is a must-see for its beauty and cultural significance.



Visit the Cathedral of Aveiro

The Cathedral of Aveiro, or Sé de Aveiro, is in the city centre next to the Aveiro Museum. Originally founded as a Dominican Monastery in 1423, it is also known as Igreja de São Domingos. The cathedral can be visited for free during its opening hours.



Visit the Aveiro Museum

Aveiro hosts several museums, with the Aveiro Museum being the most famous. It features a collection of Portuguese art from the 15th to 20th century. The museum is particularly special due to its history, having been founded in 1461 as a convent for the feminine Dominican Order, and boasts beautiful architecture.



Walk around the old town

One of the best activities in Aveiro is walking through the old town, which is rich with Azulejos, colorful buildings, statues, art, narrow streets, and churches. From the city center, you can follow the paths next to the canals, enjoying the colorful bridges and beautiful Moliceiros boats. While it's hard to get lost in Aveiro due to its size, wandering its charming streets and enjoying the scenery is a delightful experience. Check the following walking tours:



[Aveiro Moliceiro boat ride and walking tour all-in-one](#)

[Walking tour in Aveiro with cooking class included](#)

Boat tour in the canals

Aveiro is renowned for its canals and Moliceiros boats, earning it the nickname "Venice of Portugal." A boat ride on the canals is a must-do activity. Many companies offer tours, allowing for easy selection. One recommended tour, "Aveiro no Coração," departs from the canal by the fish market, costs ca. €13 per person, and lasts about 45 minutes.



For tour bookings, you can click here: [Moliceiro boat tour](#)

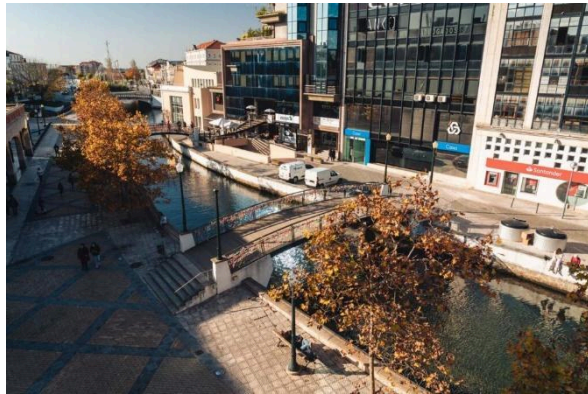
Shopping in Forum Mall

The Forum Shopping Mall in Aveiro is unique because it's an open air mall, which means you walk outside until you choose a shop to enter.



See the Forum viewpoint over Aveiro

Aveiro lacks many traditional viewpoints, as church towers and skyscrapers are not accessible. However, a small but worthwhile viewpoint can be found on the rooftop of the Aveiro Shopping Mall. By walking up the stairs to the top and heading towards the edge near the canal, you can enjoy a pleasant view of Aveiro's canal and the beginning of the old city center.



The Fish Market

The market is located in a building at Praça do Peixe, or "Fish Square." Here, you can find popular Portuguese seafood like sea bream, octopus, and sardines. If you're hungry, you can visit the restaurant upstairs, which is famous for serving fresh fish.



The Farmers Market

If you love markets, you should also visit the farmers market, "Mercado Manuel Firmino," near the Forum in Aveiro. The market offers a variety of goods, including flowers, fruits, and more.



Try the famous Ovos Moles

One of the things you must try while in Aveiro is Ovos Moles. This local pastry, made of egg yolk and sugar, tastes exactly like a sweetened egg yolk. Despite its simple description, it's a must-try in Aveiro. You can find Ovos Moles in all cafés, confectioneries, and pastelarias at an affordable price.



Explore Art Nouveau in Aveiro

Art Nouveau is a distinct architectural and design style that emerged in the late 19th century, emphasizing sinuous lines and organic shapes, breaking free from historical precedents. In Aveiro, you can discover several stunning Art Nouveau buildings simply by strolling around the city. For a deeper dive into this artistic movement, visit the Museu Arte Nova, housed in one of these picturesque buildings along the canal.



Aveiro stairs

One of the most touristic things to do in Aveiro is to take a picture at the, “I love Aveiro”-stairs. You’ll find the stairs at Rua Gustavo Silva by the end of the canal in Aveiro.



Free bike ride around the city

In Aveiro, you have two options for exploring the city by bike. Firstly, you can rent a free BUGA bike and tour Aveiro at your leisure. These bikes are available by the canal between Forum Mall and the Farmers Market. Alternatively, if you prefer a more extended rental, you can rent a good quality bike from a local company.

The cost typically ranges between €10 to €12 for 5-8 hours of rental. See here: [Aveiro bike rental](#).



Salt flats of Aveiro

Visiting the salt flats in Aveiro, known as Salinas de Aveiro, is one of the most historically significant activities in the city. For centuries, salt production has been central to Aveiro's economy, making it a pivotal city in Portugal. You can explore the salt flats and visit the popular salt museum, named Troncalhada Eco-museum. It's easily accessible from Aveiro, either using the free BUGA bikes or your rented bike.¹⁶ Go on a day trip from Aveiro



Salt spa

Aveiro offers a salt pan that has been transformed into an outdoor spa (seasonal). For 4 euros (or 7 with a guided tour) you can go for a dip and cover yourself with mineral-packed salty mud at Piscina e Spa Cale do Oiro in Marinhas Grã Caravela e Peijota.



If you have time, make sure to take a day trip to the coast. You can reach all places with the local bus from Aveiro (although, São Jacinto Natural Reserve also requires a boat trip).

Natural Reserve of São Jacinto: Explore the beautiful nature reserve near São Jacinto and enjoy a day by the ocean. The reserve features stunning sand dunes and abundant birdlife. Follow a pleasant boardwalk from the small town of São Jacinto to the coastline for a serene hiking experience.

Barra: If you want to see the tallest lighthouse in Portugal, head to Barra. It's a charming destination where you can enjoy dining at nice restaurants by the ocean, relax on the beach, or have a drink while watching a beautiful sunset. Barra is the perfect little vacation town for these delightful activities.

Costa Nova: Costa Nova is renowned for its distinctive striped and colorful houses, attracting many visitors for photo opportunities. While it can be a bit pricey, the real highlight for me was watching surfers from the beach.

